

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for increasing the lipid content of the epidermal keratinocytes of the skin of a mammal in need of said ~~such~~ increase comprising topically administering a ursolic acid compound encapsulated in liposomes to said skin in an amount effective to increase the lipid content of said epidermal keratinocytes, said liposomes comprising phospholipid bilayer membranes, wherein said increase in lipid content comprises an increase in at least one member of the ceramide lipid family.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The method of Claim 1 wherein (i) the skin of the mammal is skin that exhibits aging as a result of a reduction in the lipid content of its epidermal layer and (ii) the ursolic acid compound is topically administered to said skin in an amount effective to reduce the effects of aging exhibited by said skin.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The method of Claim 1 wherein (i) the skin of the mammal is skin that exhibits photoaging as a result of a reduction in the lipid content of its epidermal layer and (ii) the ursolic acid compound is topically administered to said skin in an amount effective to reduce the effects of photoaging exhibited by said skin.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The method of Claim 1 wherein (i) the

skin of the mammal is skin that has atrophied as a result of a reduction in the lipid content of its epidermal layer and (ii) the ursolic acid compound is topically administered to said skin in an amount effective to reduce the atrophy of said skin.

Claim 5 (original): The method of Claim 4 wherein the reduction in the lipid content of the epidermal layer is a result of the application of at least one retinoid to the skin.

Claim 6 (original): The method of Claim 4 wherein the reduction in the lipid content of the epidermal layer is a result of the application of at least one steroid to the skin.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The method of Claim 1 wherein (i) the skin of the mammal suffers from ichthyosis or ichthyosiform dermatoses and (ii) the ursolic acid compound is topically administered to said skin in an amount effective to reduce said ichthyosis or ichthyosiform dermatoses.

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (previously presented): The method of Claim 1 wherein (i) the mammal has the sensation of dry skin as a result of a reduction in the lipid content of the skin's epidermal layer and (ii) the ursolic acid compound is topically administered to the skin of said mammal in an amount effective to reduce said sensation of dry skin.

Claim 10 (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein the ursolic acid compound is administered in a formulation and the concentration of the

ursolic acid compound in that formulation is equal to or less than 30 micromolar.

Claim 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (currently amended): The method of Claim 1 wherein the ursolic acid compound is administered in a preparation comprising that ~~includes~~ a water soluble preservative.

Claim 13 (original): The method of Claim 12 wherein the water soluble preservative is potassium sorbate.

Claim 14 (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein the ursolic acid compound is ursolic acid.

Claim 15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (previously presented): The method of Claim 1 wherein the content of free fatty acids is increased.

Claim 17 (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein the ursolic acid compound is administered in combination with at least one other active compound which is not a ursolic acid compound.

Claim 18 (original): The method of Claim 17 wherein the at least one other active compound is a retinoid.

Claim 19 (original): The method of Claim 17 wherein the at least one

other active compound is a steroid.

Claim 20 (original): The method of Claim 1 wherein the mammal is a human.

Claims 21-38 (canceled)